

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2553

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for the establishment and maintenance of existing libraries and resource centers at United States diplomatic and consular missions to provide information about American culture, society, and history, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 24, 2007

Ms. WATSON (for herself and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for the establishment and maintenance of existing libraries and resource centers at United States diplomatic and consular missions to provide information about American culture, society, and history, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited at the “Public Diplomacy Re-
5 source Centers Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. UNITED STATES PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF LI-
3 BRARIES.—Section 1(b)(3) of the State Department Basic
4 Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(b)(3)) is
5 amended—

6 (1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at
7 the end;

8 (2) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period
9 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
11 paragraph:

12 “(F) provide for the establishment of new
13 and the maintenance of existing libraries and
14 resource centers at or in connection with United
15 States diplomatic and consular missions.”.

16 (b) OPERATION OF LIBRARIES.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary for
18 Public Diplomacy shall ensure that libraries and re-
19 source centers established and maintained in accord-
20 ance with subparagraph (F) of section 1(b)(3) of the
21 State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (as
22 added by section 2(a)(3) of this Act) are open to the
23 general public to the greatest extent practicable,
24 subject to policies and procedures established by the
25 Under Secretary to ensure the safety and security of
26 United States diplomatic and consular missions and

1 of United States officers, employees, and personnel
2 posted at such missions at which such libraries are
3 located.

4 (2) JOHNNY GRANT FILM SERIES.—The Under
5 Secretary for Public Diplomacy shall ensure that
6 such libraries and resource centers schedule public
7 showings of American films that showcase American
8 culture, society, values, and history. Such public
9 showings shall be known as the “Johnny Grant Film
10 Series”.

11 (c) RECEIPT OF DONATIONS.—The Under Secretary
12 for Public Diplomacy may accept donations that are made
13 to the libraries and resource centers authorized under this
14 Act if the Under Secretary determines that such receipt
15 will not result in any cost to the Federal Government.

16 (d) ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLO-
17 MACY.—The Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy
18 (authorized under section 1334 of the Foreign Affairs Re-
19 form and Restructuring Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6553))
20 shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
21 House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign
22 Relations of the Senate a report containing and evaluation
23 of the functions and effectiveness of the libraries and re-
24 source centers that are authorized under this Act.

1 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addi-
2 tion to amounts that are otherwise authorized to be appro-
3 priated to the Department of State under the educational
4 and cultural exchange programs account to carry out pur-
5 poses similar to those required under this Act, there are
6 authorized to the Under Secretary of Public Diplomacy
7 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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